



## ALCOHOL AND VIOLENCE

### Violent Events

50% of violent events including murders are immediately preceded by alcohol consumption by the perpetrator, the victim or both. Martin, S. The epidemiology of alcohol-related interpersonal violence. *Alcohol, Health and Research World* 16(3): 230-7, 1992.

As many as 86% of homicide offenders, 37% of assault offenders, 60% of sexual offenders, 13% of child abusers, and 57% of men and 27% of women involved in spousal abuse were under the influence of alcohol at the time of the incident. Roizen, J. Epidemiological issues in alcohol-related violence. Recent developments in Alcoholism. Vol.13. 1997 pp. 7-40.

### Domestic Violence

Husbands who binge drink are three times more likely to abuse their wives than husbands who abstain. Kaufman Kantor, G. and M. Straus. The "drunken bum" theory of wife beating. *Social Problems* 34(3):214-231. 1987.

In 1987, 64% of all reported child abuse and neglect cases in New York City were associated with parental alcohol or other drug abuse. Chasnoff, I.J. Drugs, Alcohol, Pregnancy and Parenting, Northwestern University Medical School, Depts. Of Pediatrics and Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Hingham, MA, Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1988.

### Suicide

Studies show that alcoholics have up to an 11% greater risk of suicide than non-alcoholics. Hirschfield R. and L. Davidson, Risk Factors for Suicide. *Review of Psychiatry* 7:307-33. 1988.

A study of coroner's reports and death certificates between 1978 and 1983 in Allegheny, PA, found that 46% of adolescent suicide victims had alcohol in their blood. Brent, D., J Perper, and C Allman. Alcohol, Firearms, and Suicide Among Youth: temporal trends in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, 1960 to 1983. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 257(24):3369-72. 1987.

### Alcohol Availability and Violence

Alcohol availability is related to violent assaults. Communities or neighborhoods that have more bars and liquor stores per capita experience more assaults. Scribner, Richard A, David P. MacKinnon, and James H. Dwyer. The risk of assaultive violence and alcohol availability in Los Angeles County. *American Journal of Public Health* (85)3:335-340,1995; Roncek, Dennis W. and Pamela A. Maier. Bars, blocks, and crimes revisited: linking the theory of routine activities to the empiricism of "hot spots." *Criminology* (29)4:725-753. 1991.

One study estimated that in a typical Los Angeles city of 50,000, with 100 alcohol outlets and 570 assaults in 1990, adding one outlet would be associated with 3.4 additional assaults per year. Richard A. Scribner, David P. MacKinnon, and James H. Dwyer. The risk of assaultive violence and alcohol availability in Los Angeles County. *American Journal of Public Health* (85)3:335-340, 1995.

### Sexual Violence

As the consumption of alcohol by either the victim or perpetrator increases, the rate of serious injuries associated with dating violence also increases. Makepeace, J. M., The severity of courtship violence and the effectiveness of individual precautions. *Family Abuse and Its Consequences. New Directions in Research* (Gerald T. Hotaling, David Finkelhor, John T. Kirkpatrick, Murray A. Straus, Eds.) 1988: 297-311.

A national study of nearly 18,000 students found that on campuses with high levels of drinking (where more than 50% of students binge drink), 26% of women students have been confronted with alcohol-related unwanted sexual advances in the previous year. Wechsler, H. *Binge Drinking on American College Campuses: A New Look at an Old Problem*. Boston: Harvard School of Public Health, 1995.

In a study of students who had been victims of some type of sexual aggression while in college, from rape to intimidation and illegal restraint, the women surveyed reported that 68% of their male assailants had been drinking at the time of the attack. Frintner, M.P., Robinson, L. *Acquaintance Rape: The Influence of Alcohol, Fraternity Membership, and Sports Team Membership*. *Journal of Sex Education and Therapy* 1993; 19(4): 272-284.



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